

FRANK DOUGIE

Meet the FAA safety standards:

The Ravalli County Airport should be safe at the least possible cost to local tax payers. Several years ago Ravalli County looked at several options to bring the airport into compliance with FAA safety standards. After studying many options and public hearings option number four was found to be the best. The county commissioners paid about \$200,000 for an environmental assessment this option would construct a new runway 400 ft east and 600 ft north of the existing runway and use the existing runway for a taxi way. The EA included a 5200 ft runway but the county commissioners made it clear that the new runway would be 4200 ft. The option of a 5200 ft would be a future possibility only if the voters approved a longer runway. It is time to complete the EA and build the 4200 ft runway. This is a good safe option and should not cost the local taxpayers as the FAA, State and other interests will pay the bill. The county will gain land and a huge amount of gravel to help the county roads and future funding of the airport.

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